Merseyside UFO Bulletin

3:5

Edited by John Harney and John Rimmer

November 1970



NEW TECHNIQUES FOR UFOTOGRAPHERS

EDITORIAL

Official Secrecy

A recurring theme in UFO books and magazines is that of official secrecy--real or imagined. We have all read of the frustrations of ufologists seeking information, ranging from the serious enquirer baffled by bureaucracy to the out-and-out paranoiac and his imaginary oppressors.

In Britain, enquiries about UFOs are referred to a certain office in the Ministry of Defence in London, where UFO reports are explained with varying degrees of plausibility, and appropriately sceptical noises made. However, it is asserted that this office is only a front for the <u>real</u> investigation and some ufologists will whisper into your ear that they have actually discovered <u>their</u> telephone number.

Well, so what? Obviously the government must investigate UFO reports, in the interests of national security. They cannot know whether or not any UFO event is a potential threat to security until they have investigated it. Publicity in such cases would reduce their investigations to farce. Also, any responsible government would naturally have the sense to avoid getting involved in arguments concerning the nature of the UFO phenomenon in general. In other words, to ask a government about its policy concerning UFOs is as ridiculous as asking it for a policy statement on haunted houses. Governments must, of necessity, be concerned with the possible security aspects of UFO sightings whilst refraining from comment on their more esoteric implications, about which they can do nothing, even if they have coherent opinions. Hence the secrecy and evasiveness surrounding official investigations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

From Dr J. CLEARY-BAKER Editor of BUFORA Journal

Dear Mr Harney,

Mr Rogerson acquits me of some of the excesses of UFO buffery but seems still to believe that I leave my commonsense and critical faculties at home when I go visiting Warminster.

JOURNAL, to my recollection, in the Summer 1967 issue, when I wrote:
"It is hard to know what to make of a series of mysterious 'phone calls.....The obvious explanation is - hoax.....There is, indeed, something about these conversations which strikes a different note from the usual moralistic claptrap of the professional cultists. There one must leave the matter for the present."

It is true that I still regard these messages as genuine, in the sense of not being vulgar hoaxes. In FSR for May/June 1969, page 10, John Keel Writes:
"One ufonaut phrase which is repeated by many contactees is: 'The same sun shines on us all'..."

Compare With Arthur Shuttlewood's 'The Warminster Mystery', page 195, where a mysterious caller is reported as stating:

"Remember, the light from the suns shines upon us all."

Collusion or borrowing of material involving Keel and Shuttlewood can be ruled out on almost every ground, not excluding the chronological one. The chances against the above being due to sheer chance must be very high indeed.

The fact that I believe that some UFO entities, though not all, may be of a positive rather than of a negative temper in relation to humanity, does not brand me as a believer in the 'space brother caper', which, indeed, I have repeatedly attacked in BUFORA JOURNAL and elsewhere over the years. To maintain that it does is equivalent to stating that a Spiritualist who accepts the reality of benificent and malignant agencies in the unseen, is sharing a common belief with a Salvationist who believes in winged angels and devils with horns and tails!

MUFOB 3 - 43 -

I regard Arthur Shuttlewood as an honest man who is sincerely dedicated to UFO investigation and who has tried to tell us, through his lectures and writings, what has happened to him and what he has witnessed. His patience with enquirers is phenomenal and his personal humour and kindliness have endeared him to many, myself included. I have stated repeatedly, however, that while I am convinced of his complete integrity I do not necessarily accept his theories and opinions on UFOs.

The 'space brother' idea, with its accompaniment of what has been called 'the puerile philosophy', is unlikely to appeal to anyone who has undergone even elementary training in scientific and philosophical techniques. However, as Keel has demonstrated, the contactee must be handled carefully and sympathetically. It is, in particular, pointless to attempt to learn from the experiences of American and other foreign contactees, while deriding and dismissing without investigation the contactees on our own doorstep.

Gaping at lights-in-the-sky will never teach us anything useful about the UFOs. Many of the centactees seem to have been in teach with the entities responsible for the UFO phenomenon. In most cases, no doubt, they have had the wool pulled over their eyes with a vengeance and been fed the most unmitigated nonsense by these entities. That is no reason to ignore them.

Yours truly, J. Cleary-Baker, Ph D, 3 Devenish Road, Weeke,

Winchester.

From Mr PETER ROGERSON

Dear Mr Harney,

Dr Cleary-Baker denies, apparently, that he has ever considered that the Warminster telephone calls originated from benevolent space people. Yet, in BUFORA JOURNAL, Vol. 2, No. 7, page 11, in reply to Kathleen Smith, Editor of UFOLOG, he writes:

"The enigmatic 'phone messages recorded by Arthur in his first book—whatever their origin, represented, in my view, a fair assessment of the situation as it was in Warminster during 1965 and 1966. At that time I believe we were very near to a breakthrough by 'positive UFO denizens' in the area."

Now this statement can only be interpreted as meaning that the 'phone calls were from the 'positive UFO denizens'. This latter phrase surely implies that the 'phone messages contained literally true statements, ie, were from space brothers from the 'Cantel Aenstria'.

The actual content of the supposed messages is indistinguishable from the moralistic claptrap of the contactees and, incidentally, mediums. I am well aware of similarities between Shuttlewood's pronouncement on 'light from the suns' and those of certain American contactees investigated by Keel. This of course neither confirms nor invalidates any hypothesis of the nature of the source of the messages.

The long diatribe on positive and negative entities in the void is largely irrelevant: I have no time whatsoever for spiritualists or occultists of any hue.

I do not consider that Dr Cleary-Baker is the victim of delusions or has left his common sense behind him at Warminster. However it must be stated that it is unwise for an investigator to become emotionally involved with those he is investigating.

There has never been an investigation of any worth into a contact claim in this country. The pseudo-investigations carried out by untrained, scatterbrained cranks, whose tiny minds are cluttered with occultist balderdash and backyard psychology, should be consigned to the waste paper basket, where they belong. Any investigation of contact claims must be a panel of persons, including trained psychiatrists, medical men, journalists and various level-headed persons versed in scientific disciplines.

I must emphasise that I do not consider that Shuttlewood is the perpetrator of a crude hoax. Any solution to the Warminster events must be in the general context of all 'flap area' phenomena. The solution to such a problem will be vastly more complex than any notion of 'positive' or 'negative' space people (or the ghosts of highwaymen).

'negative' space people (or the ghosts of highwaymen).

Alas, Mr Lovell has discovered the terrible truth about John
Rimmer and myself. We are, of course, agents of the CIA, FBI, OGPU, CPSU, MIB,
Freemasons, Illuminati, Jesuits, etc., whose sole object in life is to
cynically denigrate the space brothers and trap mankind into the bottomless pit
of materialism. Indeed, if he sniffs the pages of MUFOB carefully, the reader

Will undoubtedly detect the sulphurous odour.

Before I close to polish my horns I must comment on the earth—shattering revelations of Mr Andrew Tulley. This compels me to reveal the true origin of the phenomena. They are in fact the secret weapons of King Rastus the Umpteenth of Bongonia in his daring, wicked and dastardly plet to conquer the world.

P.S. The noted astronomer, Patrick Moore, has knighted Arthur Shuttlewood in his article 'Flying Saucers' in MAN, MYTH AND MAGIC. To keep up with the Joneses Albert Figgis has become a Lord of them Ancient and Venerable Order of Boggart Crunchers, conferred on him by his friend Sidney Friggit, General Commander of the Order.

Yours faithfully, Peter Rogerson, 8 Braddon Avenue, Weaston, Manchester, M31 1UE

From Mr GARY R. LESLEY

Dear Mr Harney,

Following the UFO field nowadays is becoming quite complex and difficult, especially with the advent of Mr John Keel's startling revolutions on UFO origin and nature. It seems certain that the ET-oriented Old Ufology is stubbornly on its way out, while the more open-minded New Ufology is rapidly gaining serious attention world-wide. I am pleased to finally see a fresh approach to the entire UFO enigma, and I must admit the marketer reading Keel's two books—I have successfully cleaned my ET-polluted mind. As any reader of Keel's works must realize, the paraphysical hypothesis is both mind-boggling and yet curiously rational. Dr Jacques Vallee's PASSPORT TO MAGONIA lends much credence to the paraphysical concept, and it is most interesting that Vallee and Keel, working independently, have arrived at nearly the same conclusions!

In redirecting my research on the UFO subject, I have been forced to consider the entire spectrum of psychic phenomena. Perhaps we should no longer use the term "Unidentified Flying Objects" for what may actually be "apparitions" of a non-physical nature. Obviously, the old terminology and our investiagtive paths will have to be altered to deal with Mr Keel's theory. However, I feel rather confident that many UFO buffs will make such adjustments easily and without undue strain. But there will, of course, have to be those who will react violently to oppose the paraphysical concept. Quite frankly, it will be exactly what we need to ultimately develop a more disdiplined, more serious, more open-minded field of research.

I've read your excellent journal since it began in 1966, and I hope that you and your associates continue its frank presentation of data and ideas. I want to thank you for continuing to send the BULLETEN to me—it is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours, Gary R. Lesley, 717 "A" St. N.E., Auburn, Washington 98002, U.S.A.

From Mr ALAN. W. SHARP Science Editor

Dear John,

Many thanks for your letter enclosing copies of the BULLETIN for my leisure reading. It makes a nice change from studying noteorites and lumps of moonrook!

I see that you are asking for people's comments on the ideas put forward by John Keel. If I were to say what I have always thought it would probably seem very rude and uncomplimentary, and as I agree with John Cleary-Baker about the matter of personalities I shall endeavour to be somewhat diplomatic.

Quite frankly, my main difficulty is to establish some sort of rapport with Mr Keel. With all the good will in the world the chap appears to me to occupy the current position of King of the UFO Crackpots. Surely one isn't meant to take this alternate reality business seriously? (Though judging by the cloying aura of sanctity which mention of it provokes in the faithful, I am reluctantly compelled to assume that one is supposed to do just that.)

As John Rimmer so rightly remarks (MUFOB 3, p 36): "John Keel uncovers a universe of mystery incomprehensible in its complexity." So do the inhabitants of mental institutions. One doesn't usually bother to check their logic, though, for the simple reason that one's time is too valuable. The same,

MUFOB 3 - 50 -

for me at any rate, applies to the "new ufology" of Mr Keel, which seems to be a kind of ufological existentialism with really precious little UFO connection.

Insofar as Keel has anything sensible to say it is: "Out with UFOs and in with Psyche." So we are left studying people and not UFOs, which has about the same value as studying the movement of galaxies by watching a glamorous woman downing a "Scotch-on-the-rocks", entertaining though it may be.

Certainly a knowledge of people's behaviour is important in evaluating sightings, but when the behaviour takes over No.1 spot why bother to pretend that the UFO side retains any interest? The Keelites have virtually re-defined the subject out of existence.

No doubt Dr Condon gave us a pretty hard jolt, not without good reason, but it is a pity that someone on the inside, as it were, should choose

to deliver the coup de grace.

If Menzel and Condon were right in their assessments, fair enough, but let us at least admit defeat graciously, and not try to escape by the "back door" in a welter of pseudo-scientific claptrap. Different spacetime continuums my foot!

Let's all go and join the witches of Warminster—at least the spacemen might decide to put in an appearance if they saw us prancing round in puris naturalibus!

Yours sincerely, Alan W. Sharp, Widnes, Lancs.

ADAMSKI, AETHERIUS, FRY? DIOPHANTES ET AL, FAREWELL

by Paul Hopkins

That man has reached the moon is now history. That he will shortly reach out to the planets is no longer confined to the realms of science fiction.

Gone with man's journey to the moon is a good deal of mystery, imagination and romanticism. Indeed the moon is dead, as expected. No air, no water, no life, or even signs that life may have existed there in the past.

Where then, Adamski, are your moon bases? Where are those outposts of alien civilizations that contactees claim?

The footprints of Armstrong and Aldrin, and those of the following lunar missions will remain on the moon's surface for many years to come, as they are slowly covered by accumulations of cosmic dust and meteoric debris. An advanced civilization with resources and man power as grand as that which the majority of the UFO contact books and cases infer would surely have at some time left lasting scars on a relatively inert body such as the moon. Unless of course these aliens have a broom-like appendage with which they are able to cover their tracks and sweep up their cosmic garbage. I think not. I also think that they were never there in the first place.

We are entering an age of stark realism and chronic symptoms of cosmic loneliness. Science on earth, through materialism, has steadily decreased old beliefs, fears and hopes about the supernatural world on earth, and in its place the world of the supernatural has moved into outer space. As the progress of science has shown that each planet, save the earth, in our solar system is devoid of intelligent life, so these infertile spheres have been filled with a proliferation of spirit creatures existing on different planes, in different dimensions, in different states, and God knows what. Of course it is possible to contact these entities, not through radio or laser beam, but through the mind--telepathic contact. The meanderings of insanity mixed with personal beliefs and subconscious urges are given as messages from the great Aetherius, from Diophantes of Sirius Six, and from other intangibles. From a host of telepathic messages there has not been, to my knowledge, a single, properly authenticated gem of information that has proved of value or use to mankind. The prophecies such as they are, are completely without impact, since we are told such obvious and daft things as--

CFOB - 51 -

our sun will become part of a binary system, and that the orbits of the planets will be displaced, or even such brilliant foresight as 'a new age will dawn'.

We are surely moving out of the era of sensationalism and unbounded speculation (just as we moved out of the dark ages) as the solar system is reduced to its essential physical and chemical equations by scientists and mathematicians. Thus the romantic flying saucer will die away in the minds of the cracks and nuts as generation gives way to generation. The flying saucer mystery will be killed largely by natural causes. Still, I believe an element of truth will still remain. Life must exist elsewhere in the universe, as mathematical probability is in favour. . Must we keep it at arm's length, or is it not kept from us by some divine plan, or perhaps through man's innate inadequacies.

One Sunday paper recently carried a report on the dangers of seeking contact with extraterrestrial civilizations, and in particular warnings from Professors Zdenek Kopal and Clyde Tombaugh. Both men agreed that it could be disastrous to contact other intelligent beings as we may well end up as being treated like ants and put in test tubes, or treated little better than animals. The fact is we are ahimals and our technological explosion has made us conspicuous by the amount of radio energy that this planet emits into space. I do not think it idlo speculation to say that there is probably in the galaxy at least one race of intelligent beings thousands of years ahead of our technology who, having mastered the problems of interstellar flight, are quite aware of what is going on here on earth. Yet we are left alone. It is a process of civilization that there comes a point when intelligent beings realize that there is no need to ill-treat or eradicate lower forms of life without very good reason. A lesson that is only slowly dawning on the more enlightened homo sapiens after a million years or so of brutality, not only to animals in general but also to his own species.

If man lives or, should I say, survives a million years more, though he probes the universe to its outermost limits and the atom to its innermost secrets, he will never realize the meaning and purpose of the universe that imprisons him. We watch, and are watched. We observe, and see nothing. Yet we are ourselves observed and seen. We are as ants in a test tube, and when the experiment is done our owners will pour us down the galactic sink, and nothing we can do shall prevent it.

Is this the mystery of the flying saucer, and man's sole purpose on earth? If so, what price religion now? What price admission to the human zoo?

SHORT EXPOSURE ASTRO-PHOTOGRAPHY USING EXTENDED DEVELOPMENT TECHNIQUES

Robert Halliday

Unexplained lights in the sky are frequently reported during skywatches conducted by ufologists. Unfortunately those who wish to evaluate such reports usually have only eye-witness accounts to work on.

Good photographs would obviously be of great value in determining the true natures of such objects, particularly those which showed the star backgrounds to the objects. It would then be possible, for example, if the time and place of the observation were known, to identify a satellite which appeared on such a photograph. It is thus fairly obvious that the application of the techniques described in this article can do much to change skywatching for UFOs from a somewhat eccentric pastime to a

respectable, scientific pursuit.

This article is based on the author's own experiences in his pursuit of astronomical photography without using the expensive equipment normally associated with it. It will explain

- 52 -MUFOB 3

how to obtain photographs of stars down to--and beyond--the Sth magnitude with short exposures.

I assume that the reader has some basic knowledge of the use of cameras and simple developing technique. If not, a visit to

his local library will soon enlighten him.

I have tried various films and developers and found what I think to be the best combination. I adjusted development times, dilutions, found out the limitations of exposures with lenses of different focal lengths--without star trailing-eimproved my printing techniques and found the best grade of paper for star

I am now able to obtain photographs of stars below naked eye visibility (6th mag.) with very short exposures (1 sec. to 10 sec.) depending on the speed of the lens and the focal length and, of course, seeing conditions. I have, on some nights when conditions have been very good, reached the 9th magnitude with exposures

under 3 seconds.

400 A.S.A. films, when developed normally, are not fast enough to record star images below a certain magnitude with a short exposure. But if you use 400 A.S.A. film and over-develop to compensate for under-exposure you will considerably increase the density of those images obtained. As a result, the negatives will be much easier to print than if the film had been given a normal development.

Some people call this technique up-rating (increasing the film speed), giving the impression that the speed of a film could be increased to any speed (A.S.A.) desired. What actually happens is that the effective speed of the emulsion is

artificially increased by prolonging the time of development of the image beyond that normally used for the film in question.

When extended development is used to increase the density of the under-exposed film, the contrast (tone) range of the film is affected. Every film (when developed for the standard time) is capable of recording a contrast (tone) range similar to that of the subject's contrast (tone) range. This contrast range varies with different films and developers and is called the characteristic curve of the film. Extended development produces a steep curve, which means an increase in contrast (loss of middle tones). Because star photographs have no need for a soft contrast graduation extended development is ideal for this kind of work.

The problem with extended development is a big increase in grain size. When a film is over-developed to increase its density the silver grains clump together and form into groups, leaving greater gaps between the silver. It is these gaps which produce the pattern of graininess in the print. This grain problem

can be kept to a minimum in two ways:
First: By diluting the developer down from its normal working strength. This dilution technique gives increased acutance (image sharpness) and keeps contrast down. Diluted developer on the exposed areas of the film soon becomes exhausted and the star images are starved of developer. This means that the density of the film is thinner than it should be. The development time has to be increased to compensate for this. e.g.:-

at 60°F = 6 mins.

Tri-X (400 A.S.A.) developed in 3 fl.oz. of Promicrol (diluted 1-2) at 60 F = 13 mins. (using a 9 oz. tank)

The dilution technique is a use-once-and-throw-away

technique. The results with this technique are constant. You will have noticed the saving in the amount of developer used. With standard strength Promicrol you can use again and with dilute Promicrol you use only once. I would advise the use-once-only technique because if you are out most of the night taking photographs you will wish to be sure of good results.

Second: The second way of keeping the grain down is by

improving your printing techniques:
1. By nder-exposing the print at the enlarger and overdeveloping the print.

MUFCI

2. By using the correct grade of paper.

Assuming you know the correct exposure time (density of negative, f number of lens, height of enlarger above the paper, and the speed of the paper) reduce this time by about 10% (i.e. if 10 seconds it becomes 9 seconds). This will affect the print in this way. If the print is left in the developer over the required time the sky area will turn extra black. But instead of the star images staying white they will turn grow-white. If the the star images staying white they will turn grey-white. If the under-exposed print is left in the developer the sky will still be a rich black and the star images will stay pure white.

Even with short exposures (camera) fast camera lenses
-f 1.4-f 2--will pick up a certain amount of sky fog, particularly
around or in towns, where there are plenty of lights. This is also
reduced by under-exposure (enlarger) and over-development

(photographs).

The correct grade of paper for astro-photography must be used. Papers are usually in 5 grades, from soft (grade 1) to very hard (grade 5). The harder the grade the greater the contrast. The papers are supplied with two kinds of surface finish -- matt and glossy. Glossy is the best for star work. They also come in two thicknesses, single weight and double weight. Double weight is better, as single weight easily bends and kinks unless mounted.

The only other problem with grain size is that it makes extended development no use for photographing surface detail (such as can be seen on the moon or planets when viewed through a telescope). With the increased contrast surface markings will not

be so visible.

That, I feel, covers the problems you should encounter when using extended development techniques and, I hope, the ways of overcoming those problems.

What, now, are the advantages of extended development? First and foremost: The very short exposures needed. This advantage must be pretty obvious to anyone who hopes to photograph a UFO.

The increase of magnitudes down to— This is not quite true. A high speed film (400 A.S.A.) will only record down to a certain light illumination and extended development will only increase the density of this very faint image so that it can be easily printed. This means that although, say, a 9th magnitude star has been recorded by the 400 A.S.A. film its density is too thin to be able to print with normal development.

Before continuing, a word about intensification. Chemical intensifiers are available in camera shops. These strengthen the photographic image which is too weak to give a satisfactory print.

They are not recommended because they increase grain size.

In astronomical photography the reciprocity law failure is a big problem. Photo exposure is the result of allowing light of a certain intensity to act on sensitive emulsion for a specified time. According to the reciprocity law of photochemistry, so long as the exposure (light intensity x time) remains constant, the response of the emulsion is the same, i.e. if the intensity is doubled and the time halved the blackening produced on development should be constant. In practice photo emulsions do not strictly follow this law. A given emulsion is most sensitive to illumination of a particular intensity. When the intensity varies greatly from this ideal, then the reciprocity law no longer applies. Very low intensities of light with corresponding lang exposures on work high with ghost appearance of langer applies. long exposures or very high with short exposures produce a less blackening effect.

Because astro-photography deals with low light intensities this failure is a big problem. With slow speed film there is a need for long exposures. With long exposures film speed falls, so even longer exposures are needed than simple theory indicates. Tri-X film (400 A.S.A.) after 5 seconds drops to 150 A.S.A., so then, if the measured exposure was 5 seconds, because of this speed drop the actual exposure would need to be 12 seconds. Here are a

few more:

FILM	MEASURED TIME (seconds)	Required TIME (seconds)
FP 3 FP 3	4 16	6호 36
HP 4	16	7 <u>4</u> 3
Plus X & Tri→X Plus X & Tri→X	5 30	7
Plus X & Tri-X	100	1,000
H.S. Ektachrome H.S. Ektachrome	5 30	12 90
H.S. Ektachrome	100	300·
Kodachrome II Kodachrome II	5 30	11 120
nodaciii ome 11	J.	

This reciprocity law need not apply to those people using extended development techniques. This is simply because if they use the same film and the same exposure times for a given type of star work then these results will remain constant even though there is reciprocity law failure (after about a quarter of a second), because the amount of failure will remain the same.

Sky fog With long exposures sky fog builds up (more so where there are towns, lights, etc.) until the negative becomes unprintable. With short exposures the amount of sky fogging is

kept to a minimum.

Sky light caused by moonlight scattered in the atmosphere will be greatly reduced if you use a medium yellow filter. While on the subject of filters, a yellow filter will produce sharper star images. Tri-X film and a Wratten No. 3 (K2) yellow filter will (I am told on good authority) give you photovisual magnitudes of stars.

We now come to the extended development times, using diluted developer. These times are for two types of film, using the same developer. You can use any medium or high speed film and any developer. I have tried different combinations but found these best suited to my particular needs.

Tri-X (400 A.S.A.) developed in standard Promicrol at 63°F = 6 minutes.

35mm Tri-X developed in diluted Promicrol (1-2 water) at 63 F = TIME h.S.A.

```
(minutes)
400
                                     13
1,300
2,500
5,000
                                     17글
                                     22
                                    30
46
16,000
```

15,000 46 35mm FP 3 (125 A.S.A.) developed in standard Promicrol at 68°F = 6 minutes.

35mm FP 3 developed in diluted Promicrol (1-2 water) at 60°F = h.S.A. TIME

> (minutes) 125 13 17½ 440 900 22 1,800 30 I found this about the limit for FP 3.

You will have noticed that the temperature is 68 F. If this temperature is increased it will reduce the development time, but it is difficult to maintain a high temperature. 60°F is about room temperature, so you can leave the film until it is ready. The agitation is limited to the first two minutes continuously and the last two minutes continuously.

The A.S.A. speeds are the artificial speeds of the film created by extended development. This means that you have under-

exposed by such an amount (f stops) and you are ever-developing to compensate for this. That concludes the extended development techniques. The film is fixed and washed normally.

Armed with just a camera loaded with 400 A.S.A. film, a steady tripod and a cable release you will always be prepared for the unexpected. Comets, novas, meteors, perhaps even a UFO! If you can see the object with the naked eye and you have these things with you, you can be sure of obtaining a photograph.

- Editors' Notes
 1. We had hoped to use two of Mr Halliday's excellent photographs on our cover page but unfortunately, for technical reasons, the printers were unable to 2. reproduce them.
- 2. Readers who require further information on this topic, or who have information to offer, are invited to write to the author: - Mr R. Halliday, 57 York House, Croxteth Drive, LIVERPOOL, L17 3AQ

BOOKS

A Reference Book of UFO Sounds (A comparison of UFO sounds with those heard during out-of-the-body experiences) compiled by Dan Butcher. Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena, 1970. ii+36p Bibliog., 3/- (15p)

This interesting little booklet discusses all aspects of sounds reported from UFO encounters, and compares them with sounds reported during ecsomatic experiences (experiences during which the percipient feels himself in various ways to be 'external' to his body). Butcher interprets the ecsomatic experience literally, that is, that some sort of pseudo-physical body' is externalised and acts as a seat of consciousness.

This reviewer is unable to accept this literal approach and feels that there are overwhelming philosophical and scientific objections to it... Basically there are two views on the nature of consciousness: Monism which regards consciousness as the result of physical actions within the brain: Dualism which regards consciousness as the product of a non-physical mind which does not exist within the space-time continuum as described by physics. There is no totally convincing evidence that would suggest which of these two possibilities are correct. Neither of these theories admits to the existence of an externalised consciousness existing as a physical entity in space-time.

Our interpretation of the ecsomatic experience, then, is that it is an intensely vivid hallucinatory event. Indeed the evidence presented is strongly favourable to such an interpretation, distortions of perspective, changes in appearance of rooms, ability to 'perceive' any event thought of, and appearance of hallucinatory figures, for example. There are also complex hallucinations which are very similar to the contactee reports. The percipient feels he is in a beautiful world where other-worldly entities discuss philosophy (which on 'waking' is realised to be platitudinous nonsense), or in a dark void surrounded by horrors. These subjective experiences are identical to the experiences of persons who have taken hallucinogenic drugs. such as LSD-25. Throughout the 'experiences' there are strong, symbolic, archetypal elements, such as the silver cord, archetypal symbol of the life force.

The author also includes references to fairy and black dog traditions and gives evidence that some UFO sounds are of a symbolic nature. While unable to accept the author's central theme (that UFOs are the 'ecsomatic bodies' of the percipients) I feel this book is worthy of serious attention, as the presentation of evidence that some UFO events are of a subjective nature. - Peter Rogerson

The View Over Atlantis by John Michell, Sago Press (for Garnstone Press) 1969, vi+218p, 35/-(£1.75) illus., bibliog., index.

Reviewing a volume like this is difficult. There are occasional flashes of brilliance in which the author has thought-provoking ideas. However, the general content of the book is, in this reviewer's opinion at least,

unmitigated rubbish. Ancient myths are distorted hopelessly. Every imaginable pseudo-science, from alchemy to astrology, leys, numerology, organe energy and pyramidology is dragged about to 'prove' that Britain is God's little green acre and the site of the new Jerusalem. The yard, we are informed, is the genuine divine means of measurement, there really is a divine right of kings and other, equally implausible, 'arcane truths'. The sad fact that juggling with numbers can 'prove' anything (One could no doubt 'prove' by numerology that Edward Heath and Harold Wilson are the reincarnations of Augustus Caesar and Mark Anthony and that this review is written by Mao-Tse-Tung!) seems to have eluded John Michell. This gentleman no doubt considers himself progressive, even trendy. It is ironic, then, that the chief supporters of his bizarre notions will be the National Front, the Sussex Racial Preservation Society and the Maximum Neasden National Socialist Movement!

— Peter Rogerson

Outermost edited by Gene Duplantier, Saucers, Space & Science, 1970. 40pp, \$1.50 (UK price 15/-)

Despite enthusiastic notices in some journals, which also compared this work to Beyond Condon, this reviewer found it to be, in the main, a depressing collection of articles by contactees (John Dean, George Adamski, etc.) or their friends. An article by Hans Lauritzen, giving details of psychological effects after an encounter with a landed UFO, a couple of light—hearted pieces by Armand Laprade and an extract from Gray Barker's new book, 'The Silver Bridge' relieved the general gloom. There is also a directory of UFO organisations which, at least in the UK section, has some inaccuracies. MUFORG Bulletin is included; the Isle of Wight Society is included twice, etc. The general impression must be that Saucers, Space & Science is capable of mucha better things than this.

- Peter Rogerson

The Great Wave of 1967 Edited by Gordon Emery and H.Edward Hill, UFO Chronicle, 1970, 32pp, 7/6.

This booklet is basically a collection of statistics on the 1967 wave. These statistics provide a basis for analysis of other years. The statistics on day-by-day sightings do not substantiate Keel's Wednesday rule. An appendix gives a chronological list of sightings (no details) with sources, a most useful reference. Another appendix gives a chronological list of satellite re-entries. The total lack of agreement of dates between the two throws at least one pet explanation onto the dust heap.

- Peter Rogerson

How I Came to Accept Unidentified Flying Objects (Flying Saucers) as a Fact by Fred O. Gardner, FRGS. (28 Southsea Avenue, Watford, Herts.) 3/6.

In this duplicated booklet the author describes how he became interested in the topic of UFOs and discusses the various theories he has considered. It is thus useful to those who wonder how people manage to become involved with the subject.

One of the most interesting items in the book is a discussion of witnesses who are apparently able to see UFOs which are invisible to other people who happen to be present at the time of observation, an observation which raises the question: Are some UFOs psychic phenomena, or are they merely hallucinations, existing only in the minds of the witnesses?

- John Harney

Science, The Public and the UFO —A Philosophical Study, by Arthur Bray, Bray Book Service, 1967. vii+193pp, notes, bibliog., index, UK price 25/-

This boring, dated, tendentious volume is one of the very worst I have ever had the misfortune to read. It is useless to discuss science, philosophy and ufology if you are, as Mr Bray is, abysmally ignorant of all three. Even the appendix on Canadian cases is ten years out of date!

-- Peter Rogerson

Flying Saucer Viewpoint by Rex Dutta, Pelham Books, London, 1970. 30/-.

This is another addition to the metaphysical UFO literature; the contents and treatment are similar to the works of Brinsley Le Poer Trench. However, Trench takes care with his style, spelling and grammar. Dutta does not.

- 57 -

AUFOB 3

This is, without doubt, the most badly-written, professionally produced book I have ever read. The style is clumsy, the punctuation apparently random and mis-spellings of names well-known to ufologists constantly irritate the reader. For example: the 'Condor report' (Condon report), 'Goodman's airfield' (Godman Air Force Base), 'Aime Michael' (Aime Michael), 'Desverges' (Desvergers), etc.

So I really cannot recommend this book, as there are already a number of well-written books on this theme.

- John Harney

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From Mr NORMAN OLIVER, Director of COS-MOS

Dear Mr Harney,

I have come across a most strange phenomenon in MUFOB 3:4. It is plain from Peter Rogerson's letter there are two organisations called COS-MOS investigating the UFO enigma!

Perhaps, Mr Rogerson, you would be good enough to inform me of the address and 'instigators' of the one referred to which "though formed and led by persons favourable to the ideas of John Keel has fallen under the influence of various kinds of unsavoury cultists" — it has nothing to do with me!

I formed COS-MOS with, in the first instance, Mr Rogerson, the aid of Brian Simmonds. Neither of us favour John Keel's ideas any more than we favour or disfavour those of other ufologists. The COS-MOS President is Dr G.G. Doel, MRCS LRCP DMRE: Vice-Presidents are John Cleary-Baker, Ph.D. and Lucius Farish. The COS-MOS Committee comprises myself, Brian Simmonds, Sylvia Shaw, Mike Holt, B.A., Lincoln Richford, Lichel Beer and Frank Morton. Name the 'unsavoury cultists' you refer to, Mr Rogerson, if indeed you have the slightest idea of what you are writing about!

Norman Oliver, 95 Taunton Road, Loe, London, S.E. 12.

NOTES QUOTES & QUERIES

Challenge accepted

After his article, "The Death and Life of British Ufology", appeared in this Bulletin, John Rimmer was challenged to justify his assertions about British UFO groups at a COS-MCS meeting by Norman Oliver, Director of COS-MOS.

This challenge has been accepted and it has been arranged that John Rimmer will speak at the COS-MOS meeting to be held on Saturday, February 27, 1971, at the Kensington Central Library. He will speak from 7p.m. to 8.30 p.m. The rest of the meeting will consist of a lecture by Norman Oliver.

Those present who agree with the views expressed by John Rimmer will have the opportunity of expressing their appreciation by standing him a drink in the "Adam and Eve" after the meeting!

The Penny Lane Chost

The latest local ghost story appeared in the Liverpool Echo on November 25:-

Two young Liverpool businessmen have started an inch-by-inch search of their shop—to find a ghost. Weird things are happening after they lock up and leave their printing shop—44 Penny Lane, Wavertree (Liverpool)—empty. The loud sounds of somebody pacing up and down have kept neighbours awake night after night. Twice the noise has caused the police to "raid" the shop looking for intruders. But no one has been found, and the loud pacing noise goes on—especially on Friday, Saturday and Monday nights.

Mr John Hampton, aged 26, and Mr Ken Shackman, aged 30, have ripped up the floorboards, checked their roof, and ton open parts of the wall in the empty rooms above their shop. They have even set up a tape recorder to trace the sound and sat up next door most of the night.

"We have searched the place high and low to see if the noise is caused by vermin. We have left bread down but it's never been eaten," said Mr Hampton.

Mr Ken Shackman said: "It's very eerie. When the police came a few weeks ago, they wouldn't even go up the stairs before me. One of them even said

to me: 'What you need is a priest, not the police.'"

Mrs Jean Bruce, aged 46, who lives next door, said: "We are very down to earth people in this house. We don't really believe in spooky things. But I have been kept awake late at night for nearly a fortnight by the noise. It cannot be caused by the wind as we hear it just as often on still nights."

It cannot be caused by the wind as we hear it just as often on still nights."

At least 11 people have now heard the eerie noises, including Mrs
Bruce's daughter—in—law, Mrs Pamola Bruce, aged 22, and her daughter, Mrs Pat
Blundell, aged 21.

In a follow-up story it was reported that a journalist spent a night in the house without hearing anything unusual, while other people present claimed to hear the mysterious sounds.

An interesting comparison

According to the Bolton Evening News of August 28, 1967, a group of workmen watched a ghostly shape moving about the ruins of Rivington Castle (between Bolton and Chorley, Lancashire). They described it as a glowing, white figure, and estimated it to have been about 10 ft. tall. It was in view for about 2 hours.

According to the folk-lore of Lancashire, this apparition would probably be classed as a boggart. These spirits, or entities, can allegedly indulge in various activities and show themselves in various forms. In Droylsden, the Clock House Boggart sometimes "assuming gigantic proportions and snow-white vestments, perched in the solemn yew tree, a startling object of contrast." (*)

(*) - Lancashire Folk-Lore, by John Harland and T.T.Wilkinson, Frederick Warne and Co., London, 1867.)

Back numbers

We are receiving an increasing number of requests for back numbers. Unfortunately these are no longer available for all issues. We recently sent available ones to M. Herve Matte, of 158 Rue de Vaugirard, Paris 15, France. If any of our readers have any copies to spare, please let him knew, as they may be the ones he needs to complete the set.

Merseyside UFO Bulletin

Editor John Harney, 53 Woodyear Road, Bromborough, WIRRAL, Cheshire, L62 6AY Associate Editor John A. Rimmer, 6 Norgate Street, LIVERPOOL, L4 ORH Science Editor Alan W. Sharp, BSc, BEng, FRAS, FGS, Dip.Ed.

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the Editors.

Printed and published by the Editors.

1